

Seriously speaking there can not be in a presidential contest such a thing as an "Independent" newspaper. If a newspaper participates in such a contest it must take sides with either, and when it chooses its side it de-fuses itself. It becomes either a Republican or a Democratic Journal. In fact, all our papers have ignored and a newspaper cannot maintain that political principles can properly have a place with the contest. But if a neutral contest is political, else there are no politics and the newspaper, as well as the voter, who prefers one party for our party or the other, becomes for the time an adherent of the party of which he is a member.

The phenomenon of the present political contest is the existence with which such journals as the New York *Times*, *Herald*, *Advertiser*, the Springfield Republicans and Boston *Advertiser* are laboring to lift the democratic party into power. No one of the regular daily papers seems equal heretofore. The paper of no one has ever been prepossessed, but seems to have won the warm serial of youth, and man's judgment is unshaken in the choice of independence. What intuitions have been drawn from these journals that the democratic party ought never to be trusted with power, no man can number. Of the intuitions of the two parties they talked with a fine flow down to three months ago. Since then their columns have been closed to credentials of it, one would suppose that they now regard that party as the sum of all political wisdom.

But the former readers of these journals are extremely few who believe that the democratic party is really better or safer than it formerly was. They do not believe that a great political party undergoes within a moment an magical transformation, that it can take leave of its traditions, reverse its history, change its character past the old and put on the new. In a word, they see no reason why they should like the democratic party better, or why they should trust it with more confidence than they did before these journals became blind to its sins and professed to find virtues where, as they had so often shown, none could exist.

It is now becoming apparent that, with all its strength and excellence as newspapers, the independent journals which are giving their support to the democratic party have taken with them extremely small numbers of republicans. The progress of the cause in all the states shows this convincingly. On the other hand the very arguments they employ to command Mr. Cleveland's independent republicans produce a feeling against him in the minds of large numbers of democrats. For if, after he becomes president, he is to ignore his party, as those now say, he will, then democats are liable to say why they should take any great interest in him, or why they should exert themselves to secure his election. It may be doubted, whether the journals which have abandoned the republican party and are endeavoring to bring the democratic party into power are not doing the latter more harm than good. Among the significant aspects of the cause is the fact that in democratic-independent press in behalf of Mr. Cleveland are often quoted with expressions of dissatisfaction.

DEMOCRATS IN THE ARMY.

It is often asserted that among the soldiers who served in the great war there were as many democrats as republicans, and some of the organs say there were more. Perhaps they are right, but the democrats served mostly on the confederate side. There are statistics of the most trustworthy kind which show the political affiliations of the Union soldiers as a class. Twenty states during the war enacted laws providing that their soldiers might vote in the field, and that their votes should be canvassed and referred to the state authorities. Of course, but a limited number of soldiers were so situated on election day that it was practicable for the regiments to hold elections. But the votes of 134,000 soldiers voting in 1861 are recorded as follows:

For General Lincoln, 134,000.

For George S. McRae, 100.

Majority for Lincoln, 134,000.

These votes were cast by soldiers from the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, in part, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, California, Wisconsin, and Kansas. The votes of many regiments in the west were commanded by soldiers who, in their opinion, were in the field. The character of the soldiers from these states is evidence that in their political views they fairly represented the entire loyalty of the country. Their votes are a reliable index to the political sentiments of the whole body of volunteers in the federal forces.

With the issue of this week the New York *Press* will begin its fourteenth year. That it has survived through so many discouragements and now has reached a basis of fair prosperity due to the energy of purpose and devotion to principle with which it has been conducted. It is not too much to say that in no other paper than that which has conducted it could it have been made successful. A paper devoted to a special object is always difficult to establish; and when a journal is started from the very first for ground to stand on, and even to introduce the cause to the public, not only against the opposition of prejudice, inertia and indifference, but often against the seal of adversity who oppose from constitutional habit everything that is presented as an innovation or set to them a disturbing force in old usages or in the ancient course of things, the difficulty is almost insuperable. That an unusual force has given impulse to the New York *Press* is attested by its long existence and by its position. It is manifestly prosperous, and in an artistic point of view is the neatest paper on the Pacific slope.

England is very unpopular with the nations of the continent. Blasphemers are now maneuvering to create a political blockade against England by forming a coalition of the powers against her colonial extension. Should this obtain, the colonies that were formed by the transpacific, and have since grown to be states of size, honor and importance, may see an opportunity that is not devoid of hope for the desire to aid themselves in all alliance. When this shall come, the empire to the arts, crafts, houses of lords and to titles, will probably be increased beyond the power to use them from earlier destruction. These restive Canadians who are continually seeking "separation" now in shape of 75,000,000 to rule than angels ever did liberty nearer at hand than they hope. France's hatred of England can never be overcome, and rebellious colonies can rest assured of finding a succor that renders the freedom of the empire to the north still well served.

It is stated that the world's manufacture of gunnies is one million pounds, and to produce this quantity thirty thousand pounds of gunnies are required. Not all of the last comes from Peru, however. A great deal is obtained from Ceylon, India and Java, and it is anticipated that the gunnies will be successfully produced in the United States. Quinine takes the front rank in popularity throughout the world, and is cheap and more legally than any other drug. New York manufacturers say that it forms the basis of three-fourths of all the prescriptions they compound. Germany and Italy were formerly the principal producers of the drug, but now Philadelphia takes the lead in its manufacture.

Nearly two in the vote in favor of the Republicans in Blaine's own city. And by a big majority he will take the city of the papa of Dear Dobson.

But we know, on abundant testimony, that around

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

No one can follow General Butler from camp to camp around the country without a sense of interest respecting the available discipline of his army. In one of his last speeches he said that he is in no心思 for the present purpose to turn the nucleus of a new party, but he was determined to hold the balance of power and compel the other party to do the same for his party. With this in view it cannot be denied that he is becoming something of a master of expediency in his "constituents," and interesting them with some very good political advantages. At a meeting of farmers at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, he spoke, as I understand, of the great hostility of that house to the bill, to keep the House from having a majority and the faults of the people which would bring back on the part of the government the existence of a self-made kingdom in England. From that came the idea of a new government in England. He does not think that the home of lords is entirely disinterested, and thinks that if the existing system in it should be swept away entirely, or greatly lessened in strength, it would bring a new kingdom in England.

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